

**Abstract**

A smart-card reader is disclosed for receiving and locking a smart-card in a locking position. The smart-card reader comprises: a housing, a contacting apparatus, the contact elements of which are adapted to contact respective card contacts of the smart-card when the smart-card is in the reading position in the housing. A mechanical locking means for locking and releasing the smart-card. The mechanical locking means comprises a locking slide and a locking lever mechanism. The locking slide extends along and outside of the housing. The locking lever mechanism is located in front of the contacting apparatus when looking in the direction of the card insertion. The locking mechanism is also arranged above the smart-card and is adapted to lock the locking slide in the reading position.

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